

## THE PALACE HOTEL: HOW W. C. RALSTON BOUND THE WALLS TOGETHER

One of the few old buildings which stood stoutly against the shock of earthquake and blasts of fire was the Palace Hotel. It is a melancholy spectacle, to one familiar with that famous hostelry to gaze upon its staunch but blackened and windowless walls. The gigantic ruin shows how ineffectual is the work of man, no matter how prudent, no matter how far-sighted, against the elemental forces. The Palace Hotel, was not injured by the earthquake. It struggled stoutly against the fire, its staff fought to the end, fighting as sailors fight for their battleship when she is sinking to the water line. The Palace Hotel had a regular fire drill; it had its own system of fire protection, its own fire engines, and its own artesian wells; against the awful blasts of the conflagration it stood as long as anything created by human hands. Neither earthquake nor fire could throw it down, but it has been gutted by the flames and is merely a wreck, a ruin.

When a boy the present writer passed this great structure nearly every day as its walls were rising. It was begun not very long after one of the great earthquakes. It was constructed by William C. Ralston, one of the great upbuilders of the city. The usual set of timorous friends beset Ralston, and warned him of the danger of running up this lofty pile of bricks and mortar. But Ralston laughed their warnings to scorn. Steel construction was unknown in those days, but he evolved a system of his own. The great hotel was built on deep and solid foundations. Its outer walls were massive, and the inner part of the building was traversed by many heavy partition walls, which were of brick, and not mere screens of lath and paper and plaster. Deep down below the foundations were masses of concrete imbedded in the earth. To these were anchored the walls by rods of steel. Similarly the outer walls were bonded to each other and to the concrete anchors. The lateral partition walls were bonded by steel rods to the outer walls. And when he had finished his work Ralston said: "An earthquake might tip the Palace over, and it might be shaken up. But it will never be shaken down."

And he was right. The earthquake did not shake it down. The gaunt wreck to be seen on Market street today was not the work of earthquake but of fire.

## Gardnerville JULY 4 Railroad Day

Grand industrial parade exhibiting all the varied industries of Douglas county. Headed by Indian school band.

Oration of the day, by one of the ablest orators in the state; patriotic songs and music.

Sports of all kinds including horse racing, blue rock contest, field and track meet, greased pig contest, trotting race and many other forms of amusement. Dancing afternoon and evening on large outdoor platform.

The V. & T. railway company will make their initial run over the new extension on that day. This will give the people of Carson, Virginia and Reno and other neighboring towns an excellent chance for viewing the valley of the Carson, the most beautiful and productive valley in the great state of Nevada.

An excursion will be run from Carson, Reno and Virginia, at the following rates:

From Carson to Gardnerville and return, 75 cents.

From Reno to Gardnerville and return, \$1.50.

From Virginia to Gardnerville and return \$1.25.

### MISS STEWART'S CONCERT

Miss Mabel Stewart, who has been attending Mills College will give a concert in the Opera House, June 23. She will be assisted by Mrs. Dr. Cavell, as accompanist, Mrs. Dr. Berry as pianist and Miss Amy Howe as soloist. The concert will be one of merit as the performers are of the best in Carson City. Tickets are on sale at the Steinmetz drug store. Reserved seats 50 cents; general admission 25 cents.

**DRISBAUGH BLOCK FOR SALE**  
FOR SALE—Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and block 35, S. T. & S. Div. Carson City north 4 and one-half feet of lot 9, block 35, S. T. & S. Div. Carson City, Nevada. Price \$2,500. Apply to Miss Klein, corner Nevada and Musser streets.

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